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_09/ 703 549 ZA_

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    content unspecified or combined ☐
    Doc Code: Artifact   Artifact Type Code: U

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☐ Microfilm(s)
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    Doc Code: Artifact   Artifact Type Code: V

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    Material Submitted under MPEP 724.02, etc.
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☑ Other, description: _US 5,842,178_
    Doc Code: Artifact   Artifact Type Code: Z

March 8, 2004

The
United
States
of
America

The Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks

Has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this

United States Patent

Grants to the person(s) having title to this patent the right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States of America or importing the invention into the United States of America for the term set forth below, subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by law.

If this application was filed prior to June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is the longer of seventeen years from the date of grant of this patent or twenty years from the earliest effective U.S. filing date of the application, subject to any statutory extension.

If this application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is twenty years from the U.S. filing date, subject to any statutory extension. If the application contains a specific reference to an earlier filed application or applications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c), the term of the patent is twenty years from the date on which the earliest application was filed, subject to any statutory extension.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Attest

United States Patent [19]

Giovannoli

US005842178A

[54] **COMPUTERIZED QUOTATION SYSTEM AND METHOD**

[76] Inventor: Joseph Giovannoli, 30 Bayberry Dr., Saddle River, N.J. 07485

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A computerized system for forming a computer based communications network of network members inclusive of network buyers and or network vendors for processing requests for quotation for goods and services through at least one central processing unit including operating system software for controling the central processing unit, storage means containing the identification of network members, means for network buyers to generate request for quotation for goods and/or services, means for transmitting said request for quotation to said central processing unit, filter means for selecting appropriate network members to receive said request for quotation based on filter conditions defined by the buyer in said request for quotation and/or by the vendor and/or by the central processing unit, means for broadcasting said request for quotation to the network members selected by said filter means and means for responding to the generator of said request for quotation with either a response to said request for quotation or with a list of said selected network members. Filter conditions may define the class of vendors in terms of geographical location, quantity, language spoken, currency, special conditions of sale, and the like.

2 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets